

# **SEWER COMMISSION MINUTES**

**May 11, 2005 Minutes**

**Connolly - The regular meeting of the Town of North Smithfield Sewer Commission meeting was called to order on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at 7:10 pm.**

**Roll Call - Paul - In attendance were: Thomas P. McGee III, Paul Nordstrom, Michael Connolly and Manny Alvarez. Also in attendance were: Patricia Paul, Secretary. Absent was Linda-Jean Briggs.**

## **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Connolly – Are there any corrections April 13, 2005 minutes?**

**McGee – I have one correction. On page 2 of the minutes it states eventually 190-2000 homes could lock into and it should be 190-200 homes. (The number 2000 will be corrected to 200 homes).**

**Paul – Mr. McGee has informed me and I will send a revised page to all members.**

**Connolly – Are there any other corrections?**

**Nordstrom – Motion made by Mr. Nordstrom to approve the April 13th 2005 minutes as amended.**

**McGee – Seconded by Mr. McGee**

**Connolly - MOTION made by Mr. Nordstrom and seconded by Mr. McGee and voted unanimously on an aye vote to approve April 13 2005 amended minutes.**

**Connolly – The aye's have it. Motion carried 3-0 on an aye vote.**

## **2. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT**

**Alvarez – Manny referring to April's report.**

- Manny met with Richard Hencler from JGA and went over to the Pound Hill Road job and reviewed Pine Court proposed gravity and ejector pump job.**
- Cleaned Sharon Parkway wet well and removed grease.**
- Hired Woonsocket Sewer Division jet truck to hose down Pound Hill wet well and flush Elizabeth Avenue sewers.**
- Belcher Ave. pump #1 removed again seal failed.**
- Sewer back up at 11 Halliwell, hired D.H. Keene to rod obstruction, homeowner said he still had problems with his line. Hired Woonsocket Sewer Division to camera line, found no problems.**
- Sunday, he received a call for a sewer back up located at 25 Lapre Rd. The homeowner said that his basement was filling with sewage. When I spoke with him, I called the Woonsocket Sewer Division and**

the main was jetted. The sewer main was clear and found the problem to be in lateral. Customer took care of the problem.

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Connolly – If a potential customer to connect is below grade or cannot go to gravity, does the town provide an ejector pump or does the person have to provide his own?

Alvarez – It states it in the ordinance. A person is qualified for a sewer ejector pump. It tells you who is entitled to an ejector pump. If they do not fit the criteria the town does not provide one.

McGee – Mr. Russo is inquiring about it. That is below grade.

Alvarez – We have to take a look at the ordinance and see where he lines up in that. If he doesn't line up, he does not get a pump. If he does line up he does receive a pump. That is basically how that works.

McGee – If he wanted the pump, he would have to buy his own?

Alvarez – Yes

McGee – They gave them to everyone else before.

**Alvarez – That is under the other contract they did that. I don't know what the details were to that. There would have to be research done. I think that there was something about the town to provide a pump and if they paid for the installation. It was something like that. There is language in the ordinance that speaks about providing a sewer pump but that would have to be researched.**

### **3. MR. RUSSO – PINE COURT CONNECTION TO SEWER SYSTEM**

**Connolly – Mr. Russo was not present.**

### **4. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**Connolly – We have a letter that was addressed to Mr. Lucien Benoit, dated May 6, 2005 and placed on file.**

**Paul – As of May 10, 2005, the Sewer Commission agendas will now being posted on-line to the Secretary of State's Open Meetings Website. This website was created to facilitate the electronic filing of meeting notices and minutes as required by the Open Meetings Law (RI General Law 46-42). RI Law requires that starting on July 17, 2004 public bodies electronically file their meeting notices and/or minutes.**

### **5. OLD BUSINESS**

**Connolly – Any old business?**

**McGee – The grinder pumps has the ordinance that the town would provide a grinder pump?**

**Nordstrom – If the town put in the sewer they would provide the grinder pump? If they don't put the sewer in, the don't provide the grinder pump? It says that the dwelling that is located within the sewer system that was not provided by the town shall install.**

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**Alvarez – He has done the gravity mains and extensive engineering plans were done. Engineering had all of that done and then came back and then turned around and said he was going to use the pump. One week later, he is going back to gravity. I can't tell you what he is actually doing.**

**McGee – He got a price with the grinder pump with if he was going to buy the grinder pump. That is one of the reasons he wants to know that if he doesn't have to buy the grinder pump and how much it would cost. That is his concern right now.**

**Nordstrom – I think what the ordinance is saying is that he is required to tie in. Because the sewer passes by his property and he is below grade. The town has to provide him with a pump and he has to install, in his case. And if it is not the case, they have to pay for it.**

**That was in the original ordinance. The town isn't requiring him to tie in?**

**Alvarez – Right. He has two options. He can go gravity or main.**

**Connolly – He put his own private line to reach the town?**

**Alvarez – He will eventually.**

**Nordstrom – I guess the other question is if I owned a piece of property and the sewer goes in front of my property and I don't have a house there, do I pay a sewer assessment fee?**

**Alvarez – In some cases we found that to be true. They are paying an assessment.**

**Nordstrom – So I guess that is what the ordinance is saying. If it passes in front of your house and your paying an assessment, the town will provide you with a pump and you have to install it.**

**Alvarez – Right**

**Nordstrom – But if the town isn't requiring you to tie in, you have to spec on the pump and you have to pay for it.**

**Alvarez – Sue the Secretary is researching that. And the last that I**

heard was that that property was not assessed. They are getting more information to verify that. The assessment was not on that property. Even if they were assessed, it would be different but they were not assessed. As it stands right now they probably were not assessed.

**Connolly – Will he have to pay a sewer lot development fee?**

**Alvarez – Yes, he falls right into that, an undeveloped lot, at a district, and a new connection. He fits all of the parameters. They are still researching and are going back to who had the property before and try to go through some papers on who had what and when he acquired it.**

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**McGee – The sewer doesn't go down Pine Ct. It goes up to Woonsocket Hill Rd.**

**Alvarez – Right. In his case because he is in between, he can go Homestead was the gravity way which is the next street over. That was the gravity proposed sewer. He can cut through an easement and into Homestead and then tie into that sewer. That was the other option.**

**Nordstrom – So he is not part of any sewer district?**

**Alvarez – No. If you go in front of his house, because it is a new house, he isn't the only house, there are other houses. There is a house that is behind another house that is in the middle of Pine Ct.**

**Nordstrom - I guess what the ordinance is saying is that if it passes by your house you have to connect and we'll give you the pump.**

**McGee – I have a problem that in the March 9th meeting, Mr. Cahill said that there is a single pump for each unit. When I questioned him, he said that there was a single pump for every building.**

**Alvarez – Right. I think that is what he meant. When they said single pump, it was for the building.**

**McGee – The plumbing laws in the State of RI said each unit will be individual, so we don't bond with anyone else.**

**Alvarez – The plans were reviewed by engineering and they approved them and said they were right.**

**McGee – He contradicts himself here. He said there was a single pump for each unit and then he says there is one pump for each building. I asked him how many units would the grinder pump takes? He said 6-8 units. Being a plumber, I'm not happy with that at all.**



**Alvarez – It's a condominium. That is their specs.**

**McGee – Mrs. Briggs sent the letter to Mr. Phillips of the Planning Board, March 29, 2005. In the letter stating "The system will remain the asset of the developer and as such, they are responsible for the maintenance of it beyond the pumping station". Is that up Main Street? That is what I would say would be beyond the pumping station.**

**Alvarez – It should probably be before the pumping station. We take care of the pumping station and they take care of everything within the sight. Mrs. Briggs should send a revised letter.**

**Nordstrom – Is Silver Pines tied in directly to the pump station?**

**Alvarez – Yes**

**Nordstrom – And then the gravity line goes into the pump station.**

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**Alvarez – Right.**

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

**Connolly – No new business**

**Alvarez – We're still trying to work on the muffin monster.**

**Connolly – Are you still having trouble with your oxygen meter? Has that been resolved?**

**Alvarez – No, I have to call the company. It works for a while then it stops working. It is unreliable.**

## **7. ADJOURN**

**McGee – MOTION to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Nordstrom and voted unanimously on an aye 3-0 vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm.**

**Connolly – Meeting Adjourned**

**Respectfully Submitted By,**

**Patricia A. Paul**

**Sewer Commission Secretary**